

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PRS-01 OPR-02 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO USIA WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 4451

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 5674

BELGRADE FOR P&C

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJ: EMBASSY LIBRARY

REF: A) BERLIN 5585;(NOTAL), B) BELGRADE 1932 (NOTAL)

1. FRAU SCHERZ, GDR LIBRARIAN FOR WHOSE SERVICES EMBASSY CONTRACTED WITH GDR DIPLOMATIC SERVICE ORGANIZATION (DAV) DID NOT REPORT TO BEGIN WORK AT CHANCERY LIBRARY ON APRIL 1 AS SCHEDULED. CALL TO DAV PRODUCED EXPLANATION THAT SCHERZ'S CONTRACT WITH PRESENT EMPLOYER, HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY, DOES NOT EXPIRE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1 AND HUMBOLDT UNWILLING TO RELEASE HER BEFORE THAT DATE. SCHERZ REPORTEDLY ATTEMPTING TO CONVINCE HUMBOLDT TO AGREE TO EARLIER RELEASE, BUT WITH LITTLE HOPE OF SUCCESS. DAV SAYS ALSO THAT NO OTHER QUALIFIED LIBRARIAN NOW AVAILABLE AND THAT DAV WILL BE UNABLE TO FIND ONE, BECAUSE LIBRARY SERVICE NOT AMONG NORMAL DAV CONCERNS AS NO OTHER EMBASSIES HAVE LIBRARIES.

2. AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, SCHERZ WAS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN WORK AT EMBASSY FEBRUARY 1. DAV PHONED LATE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JANUARY SAYING REPORTING DATE DELAYED UNTIL MARCH 1 BECAUSE SCHERZ HAD PRESSING DUTIES AT HUMBOLDT. LATE IN FEBRUARY, DAV PHONED AGAIN, REPORTING NECESSITY TO DELAY ANOTHER MONTH BECAUSE OF HEALTH PROBLEMS. LATEST DELAY MAKES PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OVERSHELMING THAT GDR DOES NOT WANT TO PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH LIBRARIAN.

3. EMBASSY ANXIOUS TO COMMENCE LIBRARY INSTALLATION AND OPERATIONS ASAP, WITH OR WITHOUT GDR LIBRARIAN. PROVIDED BY DAV. LARGE NUMBER OF BOOKS AND SOME TABLES AND CHAIRS ALREADY ON HAND, WITH SHELVING AND ADDITIONAL FURNITURE EXPECTED SHORTLY. THEREFORE, POST SUGGESTS POSSIBILITY HIRING ONE OR MORE QUALIFIED EMBASSY DIPLOMATIC DEPENDENTS ON CONTRACT BASIS TO UNPACK, SORT AND SHELVING BOOKS, SET UP CARD CATALOG, ARRANGE CURRENT LITERATURE COLLECTION. REQUEST AGENCY ADVICE.

4. EMBASSY AWARE OF UNEASINESS ON PART OF GDR AUTHORITIES OVER LIBRARY. SUBJECT COMES UP REGULARLY IN INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS WITH GDR CONTACTS, AND AS REPORTED IN PARA 1, REF (A), DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GRUNERT, IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE ON MARCH 21, MENTIONED ABSENCE OF AN AGREEMENT ON READING ROOMS AND CULTURAL CENTERS BETWEEN U.S. AND GDR, ADDING THAT ALL INVITATIONS TO EVENTS AT EMBASSY SHOULD BE SENT THROUGH MFA PROTOCOL SECTION. (FYI: FRENCH PRESS ATTACHE REPORTS FRENCH PROPOSAL TO SET UP READING ROOM ON GROUND FLOOR OF THEIR EMBASSY WAS FLATLY TURNED DOWN BY GDR.) DESPITE POSSIBLE UNEASINESS IN SOME GDR OFFICIAL CIRCLES, EMBASSY FEELS BEST COURSE OF ACTION IS TO QUIETLY PROCEED WITH LIBRARY INSTALLATION AND BEGIN PLANNED OPERATIONS WITH MINIMUM FANFARE, LEAVING IT TO GDR TO DECIDE ON WHATEVER MOVES, IF ANY, THEY WISH TO TAKE TO CIRCUMSCRIBE LIBRARY'S OPERATIONS.

5. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, SUGGEST YETT VISIT MAY 11-13  
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AS PER REF (B) TO PERMIT CONSULTATION WHILE INSTALLATIONS STILL UNDERWAY. IF MAY 11-13 DATES INCONVENIENT, MAY 25-27 SATISFACTORY. REQUEST YETT CABLE HOTEL REQUIREMENTS ASAP. POLANSKY

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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